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HOLSWORTHY URBAN AND RURAL DISTRICT
COUNCILS

Annual Report
of the Medical Officer of Health 1963.

Medical Officer of Health

- H. Mervyn Thomas,
M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.C.H.

Senior Public Health Inspector

- T. A. J. Fowler,
M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspector - P. Howard,
M.A.P.H.I.



8 Cooper Street,
Bideford.

To the Chairman and Members of
Holsworthy Urban and Rural District Councils.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my annual report for 1963.

The population of the area remains almost static, although there is evidence of depopulation in the rural district since the 1961 census.

There was an excess of 19 deaths over births in the urban district, and births exceeded deaths by only one in the rural district. This pattern is to be expected where the age distribution of the population is comparatively old - there being approximately 16% of persons over the age of 65 years compared with 11.9% in England and Wales as a whole.

This year lung cancer claimed four victims, a significant total in proportion to the population; as "atmospheric pollution" cannot possibly be advanced as a causative factor in this area, is this a further pointer towards the lethal effects of cigarette smoking?

Both authorities considered jointly the need for extra staff having regard to the increased demands of meat inspection and the duties to be undertaken in the field of housing and general public health. After a very fair appraisal of the circumstances it was rightly decided to appoint an additional Public Health Inspector. It was also decided to establish individual Surveying and Public Health Departments with a separately appointed Surveyor and Senior Public Health Inspector, in face of the greatly increased duties and responsibilities of both sides.

According to the county report on the 1961 census this rural district compares unfavourably with other rural districts in the county in respect of mains water supply and drainage, and domestic amenities. The figures for comparison are as follows:-

| | <u>Holsworthy Rural District</u> | <u>Aggregate of County Rural Districts</u> |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| Number of dwellings | 1,808 | 80,849 |
| Number lacking | | |
| 1. cold water tap | 389 (21.52%) | 5,861 (7.25%) |
| 2. hot water tap | 855 (47.29%) | 21,387 (26.45%) |
| 3. fixed bath | 835 (46.18%) | 20,415 (25.25%) |
| 4. water closet | 623 (34.46%) | 11,115 (13.75%) |

Much remains to be done therefore by way of providing sewage disposal, extending the mains water supply, and the improvement and replacement of substandard dwellings.

The Meals-on-Wheels scheme, established with the support of the District and County Councils continued to flourish in the Bradworthy area thanks to the devotion and energy of voluntary workers. Consideration is being given to extending the scheme to cover the entire area.

Once again my thanks go to you, ladies and gentlemen for the support and encouragement you have given at all times.

Your obedient servant,

H. MERVYN THOMAS,

Medical Officer of Health.

November, 1964.



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GENERAL STATISTICS

| | | Holsworthy Urban District | Holsworthy Rural District |
|---|--|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Area in Acres | | 702 | 79,518 |
| Population (Registrar General's mid-year estimate) | | 1,580 | 5,750 |
| Number of inhabited houses | | 547 | 1,906 |
| Rateable value | | £48,546 | £77,876 |
| Product of penny rate | | £193.2.11. | £308.4.6. |

VITAL STATISTICS

| | | | |
|--|--|------|------|
| Live Births - Legitimate | | 17 | 83 |
| Illegitimate | | Nil | 7 |
| Totals | | 17 | 90 |
| Crude Birth Rate | | 10.7 | 15.6 |
| Stillbirths | | Nil | 3 |
| Deaths of Infants under 1 year | | 1 | 1 |
| Maternal Deaths | | Nil | Nil |
| Total Deaths | | 36 | 89 |
| Crude Death Rate | | 22.7 | 15.4 |

CAUSES OF DEATH

| | Holsworthy Urban District | | Holsworthy Rural District | |
|---|------------------------------|---------|------------------------------|---------|
| | Males | Females | Males | Females |
| Meningococcal Infection.. .. | - | - | 1 | - |
| Malignant Neoplasm Stomach | - | 1 | 2 | 1 |
| Malignant Neoplasm Lung.. .. | 1 | - | 3 | - |
| Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms | 5 | - | 4 | 2 |
| Vascular Lesions of Nervous System .. | 1 | 5 | 12 | 9 |
| Coronary Disease, Angina | 4 | 3 | 11 | 10 |
| Hypertension with Heart Disease .. | - | 1 | - | 2 |
| Other Heart Disease | 4 | 4 | 6 | 5 |
| Other Circulatory Disease | 2 | 1 | 3 | 1 |
| Influenza | - | - | 1 | - |
| Pneumonia | 1 | - | 2 | 3 |
| Bronchitis | 1 | 1 | - | - |
| Other Diseases of Respiratory System | - | - | 1 | 1 |
| Nephritis and Nephrosis.. .. | - | - | - | 1 |
| Hyperplasia of Prostate.. .. | - | - | 2 | - |
| Congenital Malformations | - | - | - | 1 |
| Other Defined and Illdefined Diseases | - | 1 | 2 | - |
| Accidents | - | - | - | 2 |
| Suicide.. .. | - | - | 1 | - |
| TOTALS | 19 | 17 | 51 | 38 |

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED

| | | | | | | | | Holsworthy Urban District | Holsworthy Rural District |
|---------------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|--|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Scarlet Fever | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | | 9 cases | 5 cases |
| Measles.. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | | 2 cases | 2 cases |
| Acute Primary Pneumonia.. | | | | .. | .. | .. | | 1 case | 9 cases |
| Pulmonary Tuberculosis | .. | | | .. | .. | .. | | 1 case | none |
| Meningococcal Septicaemia | | | | .. | .. | .. | | none | 1 case |

HOLSWORTHY RURAL DISTRICT

Details of Inspections Made

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|-----|
| Overcrowding | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 |
| Meat Inspection.. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 164 |
| Inspection of Food Premises.. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 12 |
| Factories Act - Routine.. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 17 |
| Pest Control | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 6 |
| Refuse Tips.. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 50 |
| Rodent Control | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 |
| Rodent Control (Revisits) | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 |
| Food Hygiene Regulations | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 12 |
| Drainage | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 38 |
| Drainage (Revisits).. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 9 |
| Building Byelaws | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 47 |
| Complaints of Disrepair.. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 117 |

Food Premises in the Area

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Butchers Shops | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 5 |
| Cafes and Restaurants | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 |
| Grocers.. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 12 |
| Grocers/General Stores/Post Offices | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 5 |

Provision of Council Houses

Pre-war

| | | |
|----------------|-----------------|----------|
| Milton Damerel | - Venn Green | 2 |
| Chilsworthy | - Newcourt | 2 |
| Bridgerule | - Littlebridge | 2 |
| Pyworthy | - Derriton Road | 2 |
| Total | | <u>8</u> |

Post-war

| | | |
|------------------|-----------------|------------|
| Ashwater | - Manor Park | 6 |
| Black Torrington | - Bowhay | 10 |
| Bradford | - Queens Park | 8 |
| Bradworthy | - Tuckers Park | 20 |
| Bridgerule | - Bridge Park | 12 |
| Clawton | - Claw Park | 12 |
| Halwill | - Holywell Park | 12 |
| Halwill | - Fir Park | 2 |
| Chilsworthy | - Quarry Park | 4 |
| Milton Damerel | - Venn Green | 2 |
| Pyworthy | - Derriton Road | 10 |
| Sutcombe | - Square Park | 4 |
| Tetcott | - Lana Park | 4 |
| Thornbury | - Dennis Close | 4 |
| West Putford | - Sessacott | 2 |
| | | <u>112</u> |

Improvement Grants

Thirty-two applications were received for Standard Grants during the year and approved. Work has been completed in eighteen cases.

Discretionary Grant applications totalled five during the year, of which three have been completed.

FACTORIES ACT 1961

Part I of the Act

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

| Premises (1) | Number on Register (2) | Number of | | |
|---|---------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------|
| | | Inspections (3) | Written Notices (4) | Occupiers Prosecuted (5) |
| (i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities | - | - | - | - |
| (ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority | 13 | 27 | 2 | - |
| (iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises) | - | - | - | - |
| Total | 13 | 27 | 2 | - |

2. Cases in which defects were found.

| Particulars (1) | Number of cases in which defects were found | | | | Number of cases in which procesutions were instituted (6) |
|--------------------------------|--|-----------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| | Found (2) | Remedied (3) | Referred | | |
| | | | To H.M. Inspector (4) | By H.M. Inspector (5) | |
| Want of cleanliness (S.1) | - | - | - | 2 | - |
| Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) | | | | | |
| (a) Insufficient | 1 | 1 | - | 1 | - |
| (b) Unsuitable or defective | 1 | 1 | - | 1 | - |
| Total | 2 | 2 | - | 4 | - |

Part VIII of the Act

Outwork (Sections 133 and 134)Nil

Meat InspectionCarcases Inspected and Condemned - Holsworthy Slaughterhouse

| | Cattle | Calves | Sheep & Lambs | Pigs | Horses | Total |
|--|--------|--------|------------------|-------|--------|--------|
| Number Killed | 141 | 114 | 16,898 | 7,754 | - | 24,907 |
| Number Inspected | 141 | 114 | 16,898 | 7,754 | - | 24,907 |
| <u>ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS AND CYSTICERCI</u> | | | | | | |
| Whole carcasses condemned | 1 | 2 | 37 | 19 | - | - |
| Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned | 12 | - | 957 | 604 | - | - |
| Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis or cysticerci | 9.2 | 1.7 | 5.8 | 8.03 | - | - |
| <u>TUBERCULOSIS ONLY</u> | | | | | | |
| Whole carcass condemned | - | - | - | 1 | - | - |
| Part carcass or organ condemned | - | - | - | 151 | - | - |
| Percentage of number inspected affected with tuberculosis | - | - | - | 1.9 | - | - |
| <u>CYSTICERSOSIS</u> | - | - | - | - | - | - |

HOLSWORTHY URBAN DISTRICT

Details of Inspections Made

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Meat Inspection | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 3 |
| Inspection of Food Premises | | | | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 10 |
| Pennier Market | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 |
| Factories Act | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 30 |
| Milk & Dairies | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 3 |
| Refuse Tip | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 31 |
| Rodent Control | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 |
| Improvement Grants (including re-inspections) | .. | | | | | | | | .. | .. | 37 |
| Food Hygiene Regulations | | | | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 7 |
| Water Supply | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 29 |
| Petroleum | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 |
| Drainage | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 15 |
| Building Byelaws | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 44 |
| Sewerage and Sewage Disposal | .. | | | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 74 |
| Public Conveniences | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2 |
| Caravans | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 3 |
| Dangerous Structures | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 |
| Complaints of Disrepair | .. | | | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 11 |
| Housing Act | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 53 |
| Town and Country Planning | | | | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 31 |
| Cemetery | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 9 |
| Nuisances | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 21 |
| Miscellaneous (not classified) | | | | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2 |

Food Premises in the Area

A. Number of food premises:-

| | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|---|
| Bakehouses | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2 |
| Bakers' shops | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2 |
| Butchers' shops | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 4 |
| Cafes, Restaurants and Fish Salons | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 4 |
| Confectioners | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 5 |
| Fishmongers | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 |
| Greengrocers | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 |
| Grocers and Provision Dealers | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 8 |
| Markets: Cattle | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 |
| Pannier | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 |

In addition there are four stalls in "Butchers' Row" under the Market Hall which are used on Market days only.

An additional fishmonger attend the Pannier Market on Wednesdays.

B. Four premises are registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act 1955 for the manufacture of sausages.

C. Nine premises are registered for the sale by retail of pre-packed ice cream.

D. Twelve premises are licensed for the storage of petroleum spirit.

E. There are nineteen factories in the area.

Housing

The following is a list of houses provided by the Council:-

Pre-war

| | |
|----------------|----|
| Foresters Road | 17 |
| Dobles Terrace | 6 |
| Pins Park | 8 |

Post-war

| | |
|--|----|
| Pins Park | 10 |
| Glebelands | 40 |
| Stanhope Close | 48 |
| Westcroft (Aluminuim prefabs) | 15 |
| Well Park (Converted wartime huts) | 7 |
| Dobles Square (Converted wartime huts) | 13 |

Improvement Grants

Six applications were received for Standard Grants during the year, all of which were approved. Work has been completed in five cases.

One application for a Discretionary Grant was received and approved. Work however has not been completed.

FACTORIES ACT 1961

Part I of the Act

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

| Premises (1) | Number on Register (2) | Number of | | |
|---|---------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------|
| | | Inspections (3) | Written Notices (4) | Occupiers Prosecuted (5) |
| (i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities | - | - | - | - |
| (ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority | 19 | 30 | - | - |
| (iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises) | - | - | - | - |
| Total | 19 | 30 | - | - |

2. Cases in which defects were foundNil

Part VIII of the Act

Outwork (Sections 133 and 134)Nil

Meat InspectionCarcases Inspected and Condemned - Halwill Slaughterhouse

| | Cattle | Calves | Sheep & | Pigs | Horses | Total |
|--|--------|--------|---------|-------|--------|--------|
| Number Killed | - | 44 | 15,525 | 9,860 | - | 25,428 |
| Number Inspected | - | 44 | 15,525 | 9,860 | - | 25,428 |
| <u>ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS AND CYSTICERCI</u> | | | | | | |
| Whole carcasses condemned | - | 2 | 43 | 11 | - | - |
| Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned | - | - | 992 | 582 | - | - |
| Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis or cysticerci | - | 4.54 | 6.40 | 6.1 | - | - |
| <u>TUBERCULOSIS ONLY</u> | | | | | | |
| Whole carcase condemned | - | - | - | 1 | - | - |
| Part carcase or organ condemned | - | - | - | 302 | - | - |
| Percentage of number inspected affected with tuberculosis | - | - | - | 3.07 | - | - |
| <u>CYSTICERCOSIS</u> | - | - | - | - | - | - |

